Save image on server from external URL

The code presented in this page can be used **to save / copy images on server from external URL address, with PHP**.

- Important: If you work on Linux system, PHP must have CHMOD write permisions in the directory in which the image file will be saved.

```php
<?php
// function to get content from a URL address, with cURL
// returns the content of the page with the address pased to $url parameter
function getContentUrl($url) {
 // From: http://coursesweb.net/php-mysql/
  // Seting options for cURL
  $ch = curl_init($url);
  curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_RETURNTRANSFER, 1);
  curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_BINARYTRANSFER,1);
  curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_USERAGENT, 'Mozilla/21.0 (compatible; MSIE 8.01; Windows NT 5.0)');
  curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_TIMEOUT, 200);
  curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_AUTOREFERER, false);
  curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_REFERER, 'http://google.com');
  curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_HTTP_VERSION, CURL_HTTP_VERSION_1_1);
  curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_HEADER, 0);
  curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_FOLLOWLOCATION, TRUE);    // Follows redirect responses

  // gets the file content, trigger error if false
  $file = curl_exec($ch);
  if($file === false) trigger_error(curl_error($ch));

  curl_close ($ch);
  return $file;
}

$src = 'http://www.marplo.net/imgs/webcourses.gif';         // Image address
$dirimg = 'imgs/';              // directory in which the image will be saved
$localfile = $dirimg. basename($src);           // set image name the same as the file
name of the source

// create the file with the image on the server
file_put_contents($localfile, getContentUrl($src));

// Test, show the saved image
echo '<img src="'. $localfile .'" />';
?>
```

If the image file already exists on server, in the directory from $dirimg, the file will be replaced with the new image.
If you want to not replace the old file, but to save the image with another name, replace this line:

file_put_contents($localfile, getContentUrl($src));

With this code:

```php
// receives the file address, passed by refference
function setLocalfile(&$localfile) {
  GLOBAL $dirimg;
  $imgnm = basename($localfile);        // gets the file name
  preg_match('/^[0-9]*/i', $imgnm, $nrimg);      // gets the number from beginning of
file name
  if($nrimg[0] === '') $imgnm = '0_'. $imgnm;    // if no number, sets 0
  else $imgnm = str_replace($nrimg[0], $nrimg[0] + 1, $imgnm);       // replace the
number with next one
```

```
   $localfile = $dirimg. $imgnm;          // sets the new name, passed by refference to
$localfile
   if(file_exists($dirimg. $imgnm)) setLocalfile($localfile);        // calls the
function to set another name
}

// if the file exists in $dirimg, calls setLocalfile() to set a new file name
if(file_exists($localfile)) setLocalfile($localfile);

// create the file with the image on the server
file_put_contents($localfile, getContentUrl($src));
```

- This code, the setLocalfile() function sets a new name with a consecutive number at the beginning of the file name (image.png, 0_image.png, 1_image.png, ...).

- The getContentUrl() can also be used to get the page content of an URL address.

```
   $localfile = $dirimg. $imgnm;          // sets the new name, passed by refference to
$localfile
   if(file_exists($dirimg. $imgnm)) setLocalfile($localfile);        // calls the
function to set another name
}

// if the file exists in $dirimg, calls setLocalfile() to set a new file name
if(file_exists($localfile)) setLocalfile($localfile);
```